

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 8, 11 and 12 and the specification are amended. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Koehler during the July 12, 2005 personal interview are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 7 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 7 and 11 are amended to overcome the rejection. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Sangeeta (U.S. Patent No. 6,395,406). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

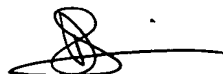
As agreed during the personal interview, Sangeeta does not disclose or suggest a method of forming a platinum aluminide diffusion barrier on a titanium alloy substrate, as recited in independent claim 1. As such, withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

Also, because the priority date of Applicants' invention is October 21, 2002, Sangeeta is not prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), but is prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). The above arguments are hereby reiterated for the traversal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e).

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-14 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff  
Registration No. 27,075

Tarik M. Nabi  
Registration No. 55,478

JAO:TMN/tje

Date: July 14, 2005

**OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC**  
**P.O. Box 19928**  
**Alexandria, Virginia 22320**  
**Telephone: (703) 836-6400**

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